SHARMA) : (a) to (d) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat.

**NRI Companies interested in setting up of Oil refineries**

4764. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some NRI group of companies are interested to set up Oil refineries in the country, particularly in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of the foreign companies who have expressed their intention in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) to (c) An application has been addressed by an NRI party to the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals to set up a 100% Export Oriented Unit refinery in Gujarat State. No final decision is yet taken on this.

**Reducing prices of Petrol, Diesel and Kerosene in domestic market**

4765. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the international prcies of petroleum have shown a downward trend in 1993 and currently in 1994; if so, what has been the ruling prices per barrel in each of the months in 1993 and 1994 and the average in both year;

(b) at what price India has contracted its requirements in 1993 and 1994 and what is cost, freight, tax and other components in petroleum, diesel and kerosene per litre sold in the country and what is the all inclusive average price in both years so far; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the prices of petrol, diesel and kerosene in the domestic market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) The international prices of crude oil have shown a downward trend in 1993 which is continuing in the curernt year so far. The average price of marker crudes between January-December, 1993 and January—March, 1994 were as under :

| | Dubai | Oman | Brent | WTI |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January—December, 1993 | 15 30 | 16.07 | 17.39 | 18 91 |
| January—March, 1994 | 12 91 | 13 29 | 14.03 | 15 04 |

(b) The average import cost of crude oil, diesel and kerosene during 1993 (January—December) and 1994 (January—March) is as under :

| | 1993 | 1994 |
|---|---|---|
| Crude ($/Lbl) | 15 17 | 12 95 |
| SKO ($/MT) | 196.93 | 177.96 |
| HSD ($/MT) | 183.34 | 157 68 |

The retail selling prices of petrol, diesel and kerosene differ from place to place on account of varying freight, sales tax, local levies etc.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.